

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BAGHDA 00491 220758Z
ACTION NEA-10

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ATHENS FOR RTDO

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BEXP, BENC, IZ
SUBJECT: MEDICAL CITY

REF: USDOC 02050

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. SUMMARY. MEDICAL CITY, WHICH ENJOYS PATRONAGE OF IRAQI
PRESIDENT BAKR, IS DIVIDED INTO FIVE PHASES EXTENDING UNTIL
THE YEAR 2005 AND MAY EVENTUALLY COST AS MUCH AS ONE
BILLION DOLLARS.
END SUMMARY.

2. COMMERCIAL ATTACHE TALKED TO CHIEF RESIDENT ENGINEER,
A U.K. CITIZEN, CONCERNING MEDICAL CITY PROJECT. AS REPORTED
IN INTERNATIONAL CONSTRUCTION WEEKLY AND IN MID-EAST MARKETS,
U.K. ENGINEERING CONSULTING FIRM OF:
WHITING ASSOCIATES
2-4 SUTTON COURT ROAD
SUTTON, SURREY, ENGLAND
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HAS RECENTLY FORMED JOINT VENTURE WITH U.S. HOSPITAL
CONSULTANTS:
ROGERS, BUTTER AND BURGAN (RBB)
ONE PARK AVENUE
NEW YORK, N.Y. 11016
TEL: 212-889-4560
TELEX: 127623

FOR PROVISION OF ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR PROJECT. WHITING ASSOCIATES, FORMERLY AN AMERICAN FIRM NOW MOVED TO THE U.K., HAS BEEN INVOLVED IN PROJECT SINCE MEDICAL CITY'S INCEPTION IN 1955. CASH FLOW PROBLEMS PROMPTED WHITING ASSOCIATES TO SEEK JOINT VENTURE WITH RBB.

3. PROJECT CONSISTS OF FIVE PHASES. PHASE ONE, BEGUN IN 1955 AND COMPLETED IN 1967, ENTAILED CONSTRUCTION OF TEACHING HOSPITAL.

4. PHASE TWO, NOW UNDERWAY, IS DIVIDED INTO TWO PARTS. CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS FOR BOTH HAVE BEEN AWARDED TO THE IRAQI STATE CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTING COMPANY (SCCC). PART A INCLUDES AN OUTPATIENT CLINIC, A RESEARCH AND LABORATORY BUILDING, AND PERSONNEL QUARTERS AND NURSES RESIDENCE. ALSO INCLUDED IS A COMMUNICATIONS TUNNEL MORE THAN ONE KILOMETER LONG. PART A, WHICH WAS BEGUN IN 1975, IS SCHEDULED TO BE COMPLETED IN 1980 AND WILL COST AT LEAST 40 MILLION DOLLARS.

5. SOURCE SAID SCCC SHOULD BE IN MARKET AT END OF 1977 TO PURCHASE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT WORTH TWO-THREE MILLION DOLLARS FOR OUTPATIENT CLINIC. INTERESTED SUPPLIERS SHOULD CONTACT DIRECTOR OF PURCHASING, STATE CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTING COMPANY, RASHID STREET, BAGHDAD.

6. PHASE TWO, PART B, WILL COST AT LEAST 135-140 MILLION DOLLARS, AND SOME BUILDINGS MAY BE STARTED IN LATE 1977. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THIS PHASE INCLUDES 650-BED SURGICAL HOSPITAL (ESTIMATED COST: 85 MILLION DOLLARS), A 450-BED CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL (ESTIMATED COST: 35 MILLION DOLLARS), AND A NURSING HOME; FOR POST-HOSPITAL CARE (ESTIMATED COST: 17 MILLION DOLLARS). OTHER POSSIBLE BUILDINGS WHICH MAY BE ADDED TO PART B INCLUDE A MEDICAL LIBRARY AND A SERVICE BUILDING (ESTIMATED COST: 10-15 MILLION DOLLARS EACH).

7. PHASES THREE, FOUR AND FIVE WILL INCLUDE AN AUDITORIUM, INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE FACILITIES, DORMITORIES FOR MEDICAL STUDENTS AND OTHER FACILITIES, BUT CHIEF RESIDENT ENGINEER WAS UNABLE TO PROVIDE DETAILS. WHEN COMPLETED, MEDICAL CITY WILL ENCOMPASS A SITE OF ABOUT 200 ACRES.
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8. PROJECT ENJOYS PERSONAL PATRONAGE OF PRESIDENT BAKR, AND CHIEF RESIDENT ENGINEER FEARS THAT SCCC'S CURRENT SLOW RATE OF PROGRESS MAY CAUSE CRISIS IN NEXT FEW MONTHS. HE

ESTIMATES, FOR EXAMPLE, THE SCCC NOW EMPLOYS 12 PEOPLE TO DO MECHANICAL AND ELECTRICAL WORK WHEN JOB REQUIRES ABOUT 200. THEREFORE HE BELIEVES SCCC MAY BE FORCED TO SUBCONTRACT SOME WORK BEFORE END OF YEAR. HE ASKED, HOWEVER, THAT INFORMATION ABOUT THIS POSSIBLE OPPORTUNITY FOR U.S. CONSTRUCTION COMPANIES NOT BE DISSEMINATED AT THIS TIME.
WILEY

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